

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 389

By Stanley

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize the Christ United Methodist Church of Memphis upon its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should recognize those venerable religious institutions and their congregations who, through their unflagging capacity for love, dedication of spirit, and faith in God, strive to enrich the lives of people in their communities; and

WHEREAS, the good people of Christ United Methodist Church in Memphis comprise one such congregation, and they are celebrating the Church's 50th anniversary this year; and

WHEREAS, the congregation was organized and chartered in 1955, when 600 people presented themselves as members of a new church in Memphis, Tennessee to serve as bold witnesses for Jesus Christ; and

WHEREAS, evincing a great commitment to mission work, the Christ United Methodist Church began supporting two international medical missionaries and sponsored the formation of a local sister church in Memphis before buying a church building for themselves; and

WHEREAS, opening a day school in 1958, the Christ United Methodist Church employed Christian teachers, and today, this school continues to serve Christ with local and international outreach efforts; and

WHEREAS, committed to diverse worship styles, Christ United Methodist Church in Memphis holds contemporary and traditional worship services to glorify God and meet the needs of different people in their community; and

WHEREAS, founding a summer construction program in 1986 called Service Over Self, Christ United Methodist Church provides home repairs for the financially disadvantaged in inner-city neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, with God's blessings and guidance, Service Over Self has grown to include numerous community ministries such as the Binghampton Development Corporation, which was formed in 2003 to provide social and economic justice to underprivileged families; and

WHEREAS, serving as a testament to their tireless commitment to Christian service, the Christ United Methodist Church founded the Mediation and Restitution Reconciliation Services in 1993 to encourage juvenile offenders to accept responsibility for their crimes and seek restitution from those offended; and

WHEREAS, supporting global ministries in China, Africa, Russia, and other foreign countries, Christ United Methodist Church also provides youth recreation and sports programs where coaches and instructors provide both physical and spiritual exercise; and

WHEREAS, combating the barriers of race and economic class, the Christ United Methodist Church in Memphis joined hands with Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church in 1996 to sponsor an Easter service which attracted thousands of Christians under the theme of "Love Thy Neighbor"; this service continued for several years and its message and legacy live on today; and

WHEREAS, Christ United Methodist Church is committed to the Confessing Movement within the United Methodist Church and to making John Wesley's teaching of the Virgin Birth, Deity, Resurrection, and Eternal Gift of Salvation through Jesus Christ the focal point of its mission; and

WHEREAS, the Christ United Methodist Church of Memphis has significantly contributed to the social, cultural, and spiritual vitality of the Memphis community and the State of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby congratulate the Christ United Methodist Church in Memphis

upon its 50th anniversary, and we thank the members of this estimable congregation for their faithful service to God, their community, and the State of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.